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**HOMELESS EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM GRADUATE
TO BUY A HOME AND START A DAYCARE**

Birmingham, Michigan – October 10, 2006 – Just a year ago, Leah Black-Elk was a homeless pregnant mom who had been beaten so badly, she ended up in a hospital. Today, thanks to the help of an empowerment program she is becoming a homeowner and launching a daycare center.

Leah is a graduate of the empowerment program spearheaded by Charlene Proctor, PhD, bestselling author of ***The Women's Book of Empowerment: 323 Affirmations That Change Everyday Problems into Moments of Potential.*** Charlene sponsored the program in conjunction with Lighthouse/PATH, a non-profit organization dedicated to helping homeless families. In keeping with Lighthouse/PATH's 91% success rate of helping women and children move from poverty to independence, this program has made a big difference by providing the tools and resources needed to turn lives around.

Leah was one of five homeless women who graduated this week. A makeover party and celebration was thrown in their honor. Butterflies were released to symbolize their new found independence. Having come from all sorts of backgrounds, these women have suffered from domestic violence, the loss of their children to foster care, and/or drug addiction.

"I will not look for someone else to tell me I am worthy or look for others to boost my self esteem, but to acknowledge myself for my achievements..."

"The empowerment program has made me stronger. It has taught me how to cope with the fact that my baby is gone (to foster care). I'm thinking more positive now and I have more hope..."

These sample comments from women in this program, show how these single moms are changing their lives one step at a time.

"We are teaching them to be the incredible women they forgot they were," says Charlene, founder of the Goddess Network, an online educational resource for women. Joining forces with Lighthouse/PATH, Charlene used both her empowerment book and ***Let Your Goddess Grow: 7 Spiritual Lessons on Female Power and Positive Thinking*** as a springboard.

Slated as ***The Empowerment Show***, this educational program began as an electronic "webinar/teleclass" that brought 7 spiritual lessons to an audience who is moving from crisis to self-sufficiency. Charlene conceived this high-tech but hands-on approach in order to be able to reach out to families across the U.S. The hope is that the program

will be integrated into a national network of those in need, helping women in transition develop support groups to discuss how the 7 lessons of empowerment can steer them back to a successful path.

"We are seeing positive change within the lives of the women we are helping to become self-sufficient and independent and thanks to the support of the Goddess Network, that change is meaningful not only to the women who have participated in the Empowerment Show but also with their families," says Sharman Davenport, Ph.D. Lighthouse PATH's Executive Director.

"This empowerment program has helped them embrace their own limitlessness. It has helped them to develop the courage to succeed on their own," says Charlene. In terms of mothers and children, learning how to become empowered is a skill that can be passed on through the generations. Therefore, it is everyone's hope, that the combined lessons of PATH and The Goddess Network will benefit families now and in the future.

ABOUT CHARLENE PROCTOR, PH.D & THE GODDESS NETWORK:

Charlene M. Proctor, who holds a Doctor of Philosophy degree, is the founder of ***The Goddess Network***, an online educational community with over 34,000 members which focuses on spirituality, relationships, women's studies, and The Goddess. An author, researcher, and educator in the field of women's empowerment and female work culture, she helps develop self-empowerment strategies for women from all walks of life from affirmations to on-line Sacred Circles and self-help groups.

Charlene is included in the new book *The Courage Code*, which features stories of women who are making a difference in the world. She lives with her husband and two teenage sons in the Detroit area.

More information on Charlene Proctor and The Goddess Network is available at www.thegoddessnetwork.net.

ABOUT LIGHTHOUSE/PATH:

Lighthouse/PATH's mission is to eliminate the cycle of poverty by offering transitional housing, life skill courses and children's services that foster self-esteem, self-sufficiency, and economic autonomy. For 15 years, PATH has helped homeless families move from poverty to independence with a 91% success rate.

More information on Lighthouse/PATH is available at www.lighthouseoakland.org